

Dear Friend:

I am sure you have heard the phrase: “If you are looking for the perfect church and you find it, don’t go to it you will ruin it!”. That’s an old, old saying but it is still true today. We are all sinners and the word sin in Greek means: “To miss the mark, or, to fall short of perfection. Since there is no perfect person there cannot be a perfect church. There were many, many bad things that came out of the pandemic but one thing good that came out of it was: I really, really learned deeply that the church is the people. We did not step in the building for 7 weeks but the church was still in action because a lot of caring and communication went on. Bricks and mortar do not make a church, people do.

So...if we cannot have a perfect church, what must we do to have a high quality church? The book of Titus lays out 4 qualities needed to have a high quality church. The First Quality: A Church With Purpose. Paul sent Titus to pastor the church on the island of Crete. The first instruction from Paul to Titus was that he had to accomplish the purpose of establishing Elders in the church. Why? Because Elders would be the leaders to get the church on track with a purpose. Second Quality: Be A Church With Purity. This may be the quality the Cretans (long e sound) lacked the most. Cretans made today’s Las Vegas look as pure as the driven snow. Crete was (and still is) an island. The Greek word for liar is Kretas and it fit the people well. Third Quality: A Church With Performance. Paul told Pastor Titus: “I want to hear about the things you DO, not the things you talk about doing”. People needed to step-up and get to work. Outreach is not an Outreach Committee meeting. Fifth Quality: Be A Church With Proper Priorities Did you know that there are churches that major on minors and minor on majors. They make the main thing everything but the main thing: making converts, followed by making disciples for Jesus. You can sum-up the whole book of Titus in 4 words: Belief But Not Behavior. How are you doing? How is Franklin Church doing when it comes to putting into practice the four qualities of a high quality church? So goes the people, so goes the church.

In Christ’s Love, Pastor Mike

Prayer Requests: Pastor Alan Hicks (cancer), Larry Gathers, Melvin Burdette

Events: This Sunday: Pictures taken for directory immediately after church. Monday July 11 7:00 Management Team Meeting